REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's Action mailed September 17, 2003, with a shortened statutory period of three months set to expire December 17, 2003. Claims 1-24 are currently pending. With this amendment, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, and 11-13 have been amended, claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, and 14-24 have been canceled, and claims 25-35 have been added.

The Examiner stated that the figures are objected to because Figures 1-3 should include the legend "prior art", and Figure 9 includes a typographical error. The specification has been amended to make it clear that the elements depicted in Figures 1-3 include the present invention. Therefore, these figures do not depict prior art. A proposed drawing change is filed herewith to amend Figure 9 to correct the typographical errors. The objections to the drawings are believed to be overcome.

The Examiner objected to the specification stating that a typographical error exists on page 33 and in two places on page 35. The specification has been amended to correct these typographical errors. Therefore, this objection is believed to be overcome.

The Examiner objected to claims 3, 12, 16, 20, and 24 because of typographical errors. Claims 3, 16, 20 and 24 have been canceled. Claim 12 has been amended to correct this typographical error. Therefore, these objections are believed to be overcome.

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 4, 7, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. These claims have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, and 13 have been amended to overcome this rejection. Claims 16, 17, 20, 21, and 24 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is believed to be overcome and should be withdrawn.

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 12, 16, 20, and 24 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 4, 15, 24, and 26 of copending application 09/552,862. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have canceled claims 16, 20, and 24. Applicants have amended claim 12 so that it now depends from claim 1. Claim 12, as amended, is fundamentally different from the claims that are pending in application 09/552,862.

Claim 12 now depends from claim 1 which describes an application development server. Claim 12 now includes a storage unit for storing working definitions, and an interface for receiving requests for a computing environment. Each computing environment includes a set of first working definitions and a second working definition. The set of first working definitions are described as being platform independent and defining characteristics of a plurality of applications. The second working definition is described as being platform independent and defining characteristics of the computing environment. Claim 12 is fundamentally different from the claims of the pending application. Therefore, this rejection is believed to be overcome.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,832,266 issued to *Crow*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's claims now describe a storage unit for storing a plurality of working definitions, and an interface for receiving requests for a computing environment. This is a request for a computing environment and not for a working definition. Each computing environment includes a set of first working definitions and a second working definition. The set of first working definitions are described as being platform independent and defining characteristics of a plurality of applications. These are characteristics that are necessary to construct a valid runtime image of the applications. The characteristics include state, settings, and structures that are required to build the runtime image of the applications. The second working definition is described as being platform independent and defining characteristics of the computing environment. The characteristics of the computing environment includes characteristics that are necessary to construct a valid runtime image of the computing environment. The characteristics include state, settings, and structures that are required to build the runtime image of the computing environment.

Crow does not teach a computing environment that includes working definitions that are platform independent and that define characteristics of applications and a working definition of the computer environment itself that is also platform independent

and that defines characteristics of the computer environment. Therefore, *Crow* does not anticipate Applicant's claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,145,119 issued to *House*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

House does not teach a computing environment that includes working definitions that are platform independent and that define characteristics of applications and a working definition of the computer environment itself that is also platform independent and that defines characteristics of the computer environment. Therefore, *House* does not anticipate Applicant's claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 10-21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,754,857 issued to *Gadol*. This rejection, as it might be applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed.

Claims 10, 14-21, and 24 have been canceled. Claims 11-13 now depend from claim 1. Claim 1 describes an application development server. Therefore, these claims now describe features included within the application development server. Because these claims depend from claim 1, these claims also include the features of a computing environment that includes working definitions that are platform independent and that define characteristics of applications and a working definition of the computer environment itself that is also platform independent and that defines characteristics of the computer environment. Claim 11 now describes the interface receiving an update to one of the working definitions, that is platform independent, and updating the platform independent working definition to reflect the update. Claim 12 describes determining whether a change in a data processing system affects one of the set of first working definitions. If the change does affect one of the set of first working definitions, the affected one of the working definitions as well as the runtime image of the application defined by that working definition are both updated.

Gadol does not teach a computing environment that includes working definitions that are platform independent and that define characteristics of applications and a working definition of the computer environment itself that is also platform independent and that defines characteristics of the computer environment. *Gadol* also does not

describe determining if a change in a data processing system affects one of the set of first working definitions, and if it does, the affected one of the working definitions as well as the runtime image of the application defined by that working definition both being updated. Therefore, *Gadol* does not anticipate Applicant's claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,029,196 issued to *Lentz*. These claims have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *House*. This claim has been canceled. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *House* in view of *Gadol*. This claim has been canceled. Therefore, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *House* in view of U.S. Patent 5,423,042 issued to *Jalili*. Claims 3, 4, and 7 have been canceled. This rejection, as it might be applied to claim 6 as amended, is respectfully traversed.
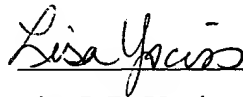
Claim 6 describes a computing environment that includes working definitions that are platform independent and that define characteristics of applications and a working definition of the computer environment itself that is also platform independent and that defines characteristics of the computer environment, and sending encrypted links to the client that provides support for development, testing, beta testing, and deployment of the applications.

House and *Jalili* do not describe, teach, or suggest a computing environment that includes working definitions that are platform independent and that define characteristics of applications and a working definition of the computer environment itself that is also platform independent and that defines characteristics of the computer environment, and sending encrypted links to the client that provides support for development, testing, beta testing, and deployment of the applications.

Therefore, it is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the prior art. The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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